

committee is, therefore, a must. That way we will avoid a situation where most cooperatives societies are insolvent and, therefore, qualifying for liquidation," he said.

Kumwembe also said government is committed to implement reforms to improve the environment in which businesses and cooperatives operate.

He thanked the umbrella body, the Malawi Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives (Muscco), for investing continuously in the cooperative sector through training and education.

In his opening address, Muscco board president Kingsley Makiyoni said "as a mother body, they hope that by the end of the training 'participants would have business acumen, integrity, dignity and good judgement.'"

On his part, Muscco chief executive officer Sylvester Kadzola told the gathering that the training has come at a 'very good time' when the entire global village is experiencing a fall-out in the financial sector.

He applauded government for rendering its support towards the country's Sacco movement which, according to him, is growing at a faster rate. Some of the topics being covered during the training include auditing of loans, Sacco accounting and auditing techniques.

TNM III a double launch

by Janet Nsanja

In a bid to serve its customers better mobile phone network operator TNM yesterday launched a missed call notification service and a free SMS promotion to run from today to October 31 this year.

Speaking at the launch in Blantyre, TNM marketing communications manager Sobhuza Ngenya said the promotion is aimed at celebrating the launch of the new SMS system/platform which TNM will just installed.

"The promotion will offer free SMS to customers upon recharge. Subscribers will get a specific number of SMSs depending on the recharge voucher. Post-paid customers need to keep their numbers active and will get 10 free SMSs a day," he said.

Ngenya added that the SMSs will be valid for the whole period of the promotion.

Chipping in, TNM products marketing manager Dan Makata assured subscribers that the company is working on capacity upgrades, especially in towns so that congestion is reduced in specific areas.

"TNM got overwhelming response the past three Sundays when this [free SMS promotion] was under trial. On a normal day there are 500,000 SMS sent but during this time there were 2.7 million SMSs," said Makata.

The missed call notification service captures and stores incoming call information until a subscriber's handset registers back on the network.

"The TNM Missed Call Notification will send a message to the customer listing the number of calls/s he missed. To set up for the service dial **62*08820600#, then press Call or OK," he said.



Learning how to make coffee

The Coffee Association of Malawi (Camal) on Monday launched this year's Test Of Harvest (TOH) annual event with a three-day Coffee Cupping Training being held at the Blantyre Sports Club. Participating in the training are 10 people from coffee estates and shops in the country. This year Camal

has invited coffee cupper Chris Davidson from Atlas Coffee Importers (USA) to drill Malawian cuppers. In the picture, participants putting into practice tips imparted by Davidson (2nd from R) on how to appreciate the coffee flavour. —Pic: James Chimpweya